

## **September 2017 President's Message – CSI Santa Clara Valley Chapter**

Terri Sudbrook, CSI, CDT, AIA

August's monthly meeting was jam-packed with networking, celebrations, raffle prizes and topping off the evening with a great speaker. Our group had many good questions for Rich Galliani, Technical Director, TSC Northern California.

The highlight of the evening was celebrating Dennis Kobza's 50-year membership to CSI and to Santa Clara Valley Chapter. Dennis' immediate family; his daughter (Diana Desbard) and her husband (Michel Desbard) were in attendance. I read portions of Dennis' bio and resume and then I further illustrated on his many accomplishments and milestones. As a thank-you to Dennis for his dedication and support of CSI, our chapter presented an appreciation gift. Dennis expressed a heartfelt thank you to everyone and he received a standing ovation.

### **REFLECTION**

Reflecting on our meeting - celebrating a member who has been a part of CSI for 50 years was exciting and I want to thank everyone who made this celebration very special for Dennis. Our chapter is remarkable. Behind the scenes, our board and committees are busy working on several programs, trade shows and education events. As I mentioned in an earlier message, this should be a very fun year and we will have many different volunteering opportunities.

### **NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM**

Our September program will be a presentation by Robert Campbell, P.E.; Santa Clara County Fire Marshall's Office. The program's objective is to expand our understanding of fire protection principals and dispel common fire protection myths. Please look for the program flyer and join us on September 7th.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **West Region Leadership Workshop**

November 3-4, 2017 will be held at Embassy Suites at 1345 Treat Blvd., Walnut Creek CA. Chapter leaders should attend this workshop to learn proper procedures and protocols on how to run a chapter and get insight from other chapter leaders in our region. Contact Valerie Harris for more information [valarieh@pacbell.net](mailto:valarieh@pacbell.net).

#### **CONSTRUCT 2017**

Will be held on September 13-15 in Providence, Rhode Island. Registration is now open. This event provides an opportunity for CSI members to meet face-to-face with other members and industry professionals in a world that is increasingly virtual. CONSTRUCT offers an accredited education program, an expansive exhibit hall filled with the latest services, products and technologies. If you are interested in attending the CSI Annual Convention, log onto [www.constructshow.com](http://www.constructshow.com).

Next year's W + NW Region Conference to be held in Alaska. Tentative date and location are May 2 to 6, 2018 at Alyeska Resort & Hotel in Girdwood, AK. More information will be available when dates and location have been confirmed.